Cotton Balance Sheet

2053. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cotton balance sheet for the current year and what is anticipation for the coming year;

(b) what is the total quantity of cotton proposed to be exported; and

(c) what are the details of its schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The cotton balance sheet for the current cotton year (1992-93) is as per statement (*see* below). No estimates for the cotton year 1993-94 (September-August) has so far been made.

(b) and (c) During the current cotton season, the Government has released an export quota of cotton of 17.855 lakh bales. Decision regarding exports in the cotton year 1993-94 will be taken after the cotton budget is prepared.

Statement

Cotton Balance Sheet (1992-93)

(Qty. in lakh bales)

Supply	
Opening Stock	32.78
Crop	130.00
Import	0.73
TOTAL	163.51
Demand	
Mill Consumption	112.00
Non-Mill Consumption	8.00
Export	17.855
TOTAL	137.855
Closing Stock	25.655

Procurement of Cotton in Haryana

2054. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the yield of cotton in the State of Haryana during the year 1992-93;

(b) how much of cotton produced has been purchased by FCI or other Government Agencies and what was the rate of procurement:

(c) whether it is a fact that the price of cotton crashed in this season and the farmers got lower prices for cotton in comparison to the prices during the earlier year;

(d) whether Government propose to export cotton to help the farmers to fetch good prices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) During the year 1992-93 total production of cotton in Haryana is estimated at 14.00 lakh bales, per hectare yield being estimated at 438 kgs.

(b) Cotton Corporation of India purchased 1,37,737 bales of cotton on commercial basis in Haryana during 1992-93 cotton season and CCI paid average rate of Rs. 995 per quintal of kapas of J-34 variety as against the support price of Rs. 800 per quintal of kapas.

(c) to (e) The prices of kapas during the current cotton season 1992-93 were ruling above the minimum support price but were lower than the prices during the previous season. The Government of India have already released 17.855 lakh bales of cotton for export during the current year so that farmers get reasonable price of their produce.

Setting up of Silk Yarn Bank in Andhra Pradesh

2055. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted a scheme of setting up of Silk Yarn Bank Scheme in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal to Government of India for Central assistance to supply 40,000 kgs. of silk yarn during 1993-94, against the purchase of 24,838 Kgs. of silk yarn during the last year 1992-93.

(c) The Government has decided to provide necessary Central assistance keeping in view the overall fund position and also demand from other States under the National Silk Yarn Bank Scheme.

Smuggling of Silk Yarn

2056. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM:

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to impose a ban on the import of silk yarn for local consumption to protect the domestic farmers of sericulture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Central Government to stop smuggling of ungraded silk yarn in the country; and

(e) what effect measures Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. As a matter of policy, the imports of raw silk for domestic consumption are allowed only in the case exigencies of its short supply and or abnormal increase in its prices in the local markets.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The concerned Government agencies have been suitably alerted and close coordination is being maintained to check the smuggling of raw silk effectively.

Functioning of Apparel Export Promotion Council

2057. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's major garment exporters have expressed concern against the bureaucratic functioning of the Apparel Export Promotion Council;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to free the AEPC of bureaucrats and replace them with professionals who are more adopt in handling export programmes on commercial lines; and

(c) whether it is a fact that while Government consults the industry in forming broad policy guidelines, the industry is totally ignored in the matter of frequent amendments brought forth by AEPC causing confusion and delay in clearance of shipments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The activities of the Apparel Export Promotion Council are handled, at the official level, by the Director General, who is Government official on deputation, assisted by a team of professionals recruited by the Council. Government receives from time to time representations from garment exporters on various issues including functioning of Apparel Export Promotion Council. Appropriate decisions are taken on these representations keeping in view the objectives of improving export performance as well as ensuring fair and objective quota administration.

(c) Policy decisions regarding the export entitlement distribution and clearance of shipments thereunder are taken by the Government and the industry is always consulted before taking such decisions and also when changes are made in the decisions taken earlier.